

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE

1 h 30 min

PAPER 1

NOVEMBER 1988

## Part One

Write a composition on **one** of the following subjects:

*You are advised to spend about 60 minutes on this part, and to write not more than 600 words. Longer compositions often lose marks through carelessness. Compositions shorter than 350 words will lose marks.*

- 1 A family argument.
- 2 Describe the sights, sounds and activities at the end of a day's work.
- 3 Write a short story based on **one** of the following:  
Either (a) "But you promised!" she cried. "I will never trust you again."

Or (b) In a famous Science Fiction story, the characters live in a world where they will stay at their present ages for ever. They will never grow older; they will never die. Imagine that you are living in such a world.

- 4 Describe an incident in which you felt you were treated unfairly.
- 5 What dangers should young people guard against when they leave school?

## Part Two

After a bus journey, you arrive at a relatives's home to stay for a few days. You find that you have the wrong travelling bag.

Write an account of what happened, using **some or all** of the points below, **and adding other ideas of your own**.

How and when you discovered the mistake.

What you did.

What was in the bag(s).

What your feelings were.

Who else was involved.

How your stay was affected.

What finally happened.

You should **arrange** and **expand** the above notes to make your account detailed and interesting.

Read the following passage carefully before you attempt any questions.

Answer all the questions. You are recommended to answer them in the order set.

Mistakes in spelling, punctuation and grammar may be penalised in any part of the paper.

(Arjan Singh has established a wildlife reserve in Northern India. In the course of his book *Tiger Haven* he describes how he changed from being a hunter of animals to a wildlife photographer.)

### *The Shutter and the Trigger*

- 1 The days of the hunter are almost over in India. This is partly because there is practically nothing left to kill, and partly because some steps have been taken, principally by banning tiger-shooting, to protect those animals which still survive.
- 2 Some people say that Man is naturally a hunter, with a primitive urge to set out in pursuit of his prey with a heavy club—or its modern equivalent—on his shoulder. I disagree with this view. Surely our earliest ancestors, who at first possessed no weapons, spent their time scratching for roots and were no doubt themselves often hunted by carnivorous animals? 5
- 3 I believe the main reason why the modern hunter kills is because he is conceited, and thinks people will admire his courage in conquering dangerous beasts. Of course, there are some who genuinely believe that the killing is not really the important thing, and that the chief pleasure lies in the joy of the hunt and the beauties of the wild countryside. There are also those for whom hunting in fact offers a chance to prove themselves and deliberately risk death; these men go out after rogue elephants or man-eating tigers, even if they claim they only do it to rid the countryside of a menace. I can respect reasons like these. Appreciating the wonders of nature and setting out purposely to test yourself against the dangers of the unknown are admirable motives. These are clearly different from the need to boost your high opinion of yourself. 10
- 4 The greatest big-game hunters expressed in their writings something of these finer motives. One of them wrote: 20
- “You must properly respect what you are after and shoot it cleanly and on the animal’s own territory. You must fix for ever in your mind all the wonder of that particular day—the blue of the sky, the smells, the feel of the breeze, the scent of the flowers. Then you will not merely have killed an animal; you will have given a kind of immortality to a beast because you loved him and wanted him for ever, so that you could always recapture that moment. This is better than letting him grow a few years older to be attacked and crippled by his own son and eventually eaten, half alive, by hyenas. Hunting is not a cruel and senseless slaughter—not if you respect the thing you kill, not if you kill to enrich your memories, not if you kill to feed your people.” 30
- 5 I can understand such beliefs, and can compare these hunters with earlier warriors who hunted lions with spears and boldly seized them by the tail. But this is in sharp contrast to many tiger-shoots I have seen, in which modern rifles with telescopic sights were used. The so-called hunters fired from tall trees or from the backs of trained elephants. Such tactics made tigers seem no more dangerous than rabbits. 35
- 6 Yet once I took up photography I found that it demanded more skill than hunting, involved more danger, but in the end brought more satisfying rewards. 40



No one can deny there is a certain skill in shooting a charging rhino or an alert wildebeeste at a range of 200 metres. Filming such animals, however, is far more difficult. The photographer must possess a considerable degree of jungle craft to get very close to his subject and remain constantly downwind of it so that it is unaware of his presence. He must have a thorough knowledge of the animal's habits so that he will know where to find it and which way it will move. He must be gifted with powers of endurance and patience because often, after a long exhausting wait in the blazing sun, he will in the end be outwitted by the animal's keener senses, or deceived by his false expectation of what it will do.

7 Hunters often say there is no risk involved in filming. They claim, rightly, that a tiger is at its most dangerous when wounded and that a photographer does not have to follow up a wounded animal as they often have to do. They say that therefore close-up photography is a much less hazardous business. Yet the hunter is superbly equipped to deal with every dangerous situation. If, however, a photographer suddenly encounters a tigress with cubs, an elephant with a toothache or a bear with a sore head he has no such safeguard; he would find it impossible to take pictures if he burdened himself with a powerful rifle 'at the ready'. The only weapon I have when I film tigers is a small revolver in my belt, which is for my own personal protection. Moreover, though I do not disagree with the hunters' claim, a healthy tiger at 5 metres' range can seem just as menacing as a wounded one at 50!

8 Hunters enjoy the communal nature of their activity. They drive out to the forest in a group, stop every so often for a shoot and then continue on their way, competing to see which of them can get the biggest kill of the day. The photographer, by contrast, usually works alone. If this is seen as a disadvantage by some, it is a recommendation to others. He can in any case satisfy his need to compete by comparing his efforts to the work of others — or even work with others, though his pictures will seldom be as good as when he is filming on his own.

9 As for the rewards involved, those a photographer gains are infinitely superior to those of a hunter. The skin of an animal or a pair of antlers on the wall of the hunter's home are scarcely works of art. They are merely personal trophies to remind him of the successful hunt, and are decaying ones at that, which will soon lose their initial freshness: whiskers fall out, the coat's shine disappears and the antlers soon resemble burnt twigs. But a good photograph can capture an animal in a typical movement and catch its expression, both made more striking by the combination of light and shadows. In this way the essential quality of the animal is permanently preserved in a work of art for all to enjoy.

10 Once a person has tried to film an animal rather than shoot it, the idea of killing seems a cruel and childish sport, like tearing off the wings of a butterfly. For every creature is of interest to the photographer. The deer with its young, the nesting kingfisher and the brightly-coloured insect are fair game for him, just as much as the tiger, the leopard and other more impressive inhabitants of the forest. If hunters could only forget their need to compete for trophies they would realise there is a greater pleasure, a greater challenge and a greater humanity in preserving a record of our wildlife than in destroying it. That at least is what I found when I laid aside my rifle and took up a camera.

(Adapted from *Tiger Haven* by Arjan Singh.)

Answer all the questions.

You are recommended to answer them in the order set.

From paragraph 1:

- 1 (a) (i) Suggest one word or a short phrase which could replace 'practically' without changing the meaning.  
(ii) Suggest one word or a short phrase which could replace 'principally' without changing the meaning.  
(iii) Say why there was a ban on tiger-shooting

(3 marks)

From paragraph 2:

- 1 (b) (i) What would be the modern equivalent of the hunter's club?  
(ii) Why did our earliest ancestors have to *scratch* for roots for their food?

(2 marks)

From paragraph 3:

- 1 (c) What main reason for hunting does the writer disapprove of?

(1 mark)

From paragraph 4:

- 1 (d) (i) 'shoot it *cleanly*'. What does this mean?  
(ii) What advantage does an animal have if it is hunted in its 'own territory'?

(2 marks)

- (e) (i) What is 'immortality'?  
(ii) How, according to the author, can killing an animal give it 'a kind of immortality'?

(2 marks)

[10 marks]

- 2 (a) (i) What reason for hunting is given by the men who go after 'man-eating tigers' (line 15)?

- (ii) State the **two** actual reasons they hunt the man-eating tigers.

(3 marks)

- (b) (i) 'earlier warriors . . . hunted lions with spears and boldly seized them by the tail' (lines 34-35).  
What quality of these warriors, which the author admired, is illustrated here?

- (ii) The author refers to the 'so-called hunters' (line 37).  
What does this tell us about his opinion of them?

- (iii) What **two** aspects of the 'many tiger-shoots' (line 36) that he has seen explain this opinion?

(4 marks)



(c) Why is skill necessary

- (i) to shoot a 'charging rhino' (line 42)?
- (ii) to shoot a 'wildebeeste at a range of 200 metres' (line 43)?

(2 marks)

(d) (i) Why should being 'downwind' of the animal ensure it was 'unaware of his presence' (lines 45-46)?

(ii) His wait in the *blazing* sun is often *exhausting*.

Which one of his 'powers' (line 48) is being tested?

(iii) What evidence is there in the paragraph that his knowledge of an animal's habits is not always 'thorough' (line 46)?

(3 marks)

(e) Why does a hunter 'have to follow up a wounded animal' (line 53)?

(1 mark)

[13 marks]

3 (a) Choose **FIVE** of the following words. For each of them, give **one** word or short phrase (of not more than **seven** words) which has the same meaning as it has in the passage.

- |                           |                         |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. carnivorous (line 8)   | 5. clearly (line 18)    |
| 2. genuinely (line 11)    | 6. merely (line 26)     |
| 3. chief (line 12)        | 7. eventually (line 30) |
| 4. appreciating (line 16) | 8. senseless (line 31)  |

(5 marks)

(b) This passage has the title 'The Shutter and the Trigger'. Why? Answer briefly.

(2 marks)

[7 marks]

4 The author claims that photography involves more skill and danger than hunting, but brings greater rewards (lines 40-41).

Write a summary of the reasons he gives to support this claim.

USE ONLY THE MATERIAL FROM LINE 40 TO LINE 78.

Your account, which should be in continuous writing, must not be longer than 160 words, including the 10 opening words given below.

Begin your summary as follows:

Photographing wild animals demands more skill than hunting them because . . .

[20 marks]